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Message Text

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17
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 LAB-01 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 SWF-01

FEA-01 IO-10 /087 W
---------- 007740
R 271420Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6753
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, VE
SUBJECT: TRADE BILL - GSP PROVISIONS

1. THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE VERSION OF THE TRADE BILL EXCLUDING VENEZUELA AND OTHER OPEC COUNTRIES FROM GSP BENEFITS WAS REPORTED WIDELY IN THE CARACAS PRESS ON NOVEMBER 16. THE WIRE SERVICE REPORT INDICATED THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION PLANS TO OPPOSE THE PROVISION OF THE BILL EXCLUDING VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR FROM GSP BENEFITS.

2. OFFICIAL GOV REACTION TO THE GSP PROVISION WAS REPORTED IN EL NACIONAL ON NOVEMBER 27, BASED ON AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. REINALDO FIGUEREDO, PRESIDENT OF THE FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE. DR. FIGUEREDO OBSERVED THAT GENERALIZED TRADE PREFERENCES HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BY ALL INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES EXCEPT THE UNITED STATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS APPROVED BY UNCTAD II. HE WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT A DECISION TO EXCLUDE OPEC OUNTRIES WOULD VIOLATE THE ESSENTIAL PHILOSOPHY OF GSP BECAUSE IT IS "DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO PROVIDE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL
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PRODUCTS EXPORTED TO INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO TO

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ELIMINATE BARRIERS AND DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT." EL NACIONAL REPORTED THAT OFFICIAL VENEZUELAN REACTION WAS FAVORABLE TO PRESIDNET FORD'S POSITION OPPOSING THE EXCLUSION OF OPEC COUNTRIES. FIGUEREDO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT VENEZUELAN AUTHORITIES ARE FOLLOWING THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

3. COMMENT: OFFICAL GOV REACTION TO THE POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF VENEZUELA FROM GSP BENEFITS WAS SOFTENED SIGNIFICANTLY BY THE REPORTED OPPOSITION OF PRESIDENT FORD. EL NACIONAL ALSO CONTACTED THE EMBASSY FOR COMMENT. THE EMBASSY CONFIRMED THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION AND DESCRIBED THE LEGISLATIVE STEPS WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE THE DRAFT TRADE BILL IS ADOPTED. END COMMENT.
MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ETRD, VE
To: STATE
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